

GP 1652



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OCT 23 2000

In re application of

Trinh *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/306,986

Filed: May 7, 1999

For: **A Method for Synthesizing a  
Nucleic Acid Molecule Using a  
Ribonuclease**

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Hutson, R.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4570001/RWE/KKV

ENTER 1600/2900

### Reply To Restriction Requirement

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated September 28, 2000, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicant hereby provisionally elects to prosecute the invention of Group II, represented by claims 8-13. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

This election is made without traverse.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement, and consideration and allowance of all pending claims, are respectfully requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

*Robert W. Esmond*

Robert W. Esmond  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 32,893

Date: October 19, 2000

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600